

May 20, 2003
Large CAG Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April CAG meeting were approved.

The May CAG Agenda was approved. Miranda Duncan announced that the meeting had to conclude by 9:00 p.m. because the school maintenance workers had to leave.

CAG not for profit organization. Purpose, operating principles and structure for the CAG not for profit organization are summarized in the handout. Gerty O'Leary requested that CAG members read the handout and call her at (636) 475-3310 with suggestions. Creating a not for profit was voted on by the CAG at the September 2002 meeting and ties in with the Priority Focus Group on the Impact of the Buy Out. The handout is a working document developed at the Missouri Department of Conservation-sponsored Leadership Clinic. The CAG not for profit organization will be discussed more fully at the June CAG meeting.

Community Convenor Report (Doug Sarno). About 50 people participated in the interviews and an additional 30 –35 honor students. Key points include:

- Most significant issue is stigmatization of the community
- Clean-up must proceed and health issues answered adequately
- Most thought the clean up was going on in a positive direction
- Clarity of information and level of understanding about lead and the terms of the administrative order are inconsistent – some know a great deal and others are confused
- Many issues revolve around the buy-out zone
- Some residents want to stay but can't find equivalent housing so have to leave Herculanum
- The effect on the soul of the community from buy-out has not been adequately considered
- Centers of community life – three churches, AmVets – all located in buy-out zone
- Unfair requirements on people to keep their homes from becoming recontamination
- The River is an under-utilized resource
- Sadness over loss of the city's center where people could shop
- School is a great source of pride and an asset to the community
- Strong sense of history in the community
- Possibility of annexing land to the west of Herculanum
- Use of Doe Run plant after it closes
- How to create a healthy and involved citizenry
- Key issue is what to do with the buy-out zone – how will that land be used?
- Doe Run is critical to community because of the financial base and because they own so much of the land in Herculanum
- Developable property along the River is Doe Run owned property – so Doe Run needs to be part of any conversation about the future of Herculanum
- Need to know how long the lead smelter will continue to operate
- Recontamination has an impact on whether people can move back

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Superfund

- If Doe Run is to continue to operate, appropriate land use for the buy-out zone is different than if Doe Run continues to operative for only a few more years . . . should not make decisions based on incorrect assumptions
- Annexation is in city's master plan, but no schedule for annexation
- Environmental/health hazards need to be clarified and better understood
- How to craft a community wide dialogue – all voices have to be around the table, including Doe Run and agencies
- Once community believes it has all the relevant information can proceed with visioning.
- Community has to be involved in designing the vision for the future of Herculaneum – community directs the process
- The economic study will help to identify resources
- What are the factors that make community revitalization work?
- Strong leadership
- Broad-based community leadership
- Non profit entity to move revitalization forward

Timeframe is flexible – don't want to spend too much time or money on planning until all the missing pieces of information are available. First have to understand what's possible and what's not possible. The outcome from the community convening process would be

- Clear community based vision of what Herculaneum looks like in five years – e.g.,
- Land use
- Development
- City center
- Building capacity of how that is going to take place
- Communication and leadership
- Funding sources

Problem Solving List. Tim Myers described the processes worked out at the CAG Action Group Meeting (May 13, 2002) that would help get problems addressed more quickly and satisfactorily.

Questions and answers at the CAG meetings about clean up of yards and houses don't seem to go anywhere. Tim will follow up with these problems and get commitment from the agencies and company of when a resolution will happen. People who have problems should call Tim or go to City Hall and fill out complaint form. Tim will collect the forms from City Hall weekly.

Agency Reports

ATSDR

Denise Jordan Izaguirre introduced Dr. Ketna Mistry of ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) who developed a protocol to conduct an exposure investigation for cadmium, arsenic and lead. An exposure investigation can tell you only who has the highest amount of chemical – looking for high exposure or “worst case scenario.” If no problem exists in worst case scenario, concerns are eased. If there is a problem, then more studies are

warranted. An exposure investigation cannot tell if a chemical inside a person is the cause of a health problem, or where the chemical comes from. It just determines how much of the contamination is in a person

Urine will be collected June 16 and one a month in July and a third time in August. Results from the testing will be available from four to six months after August

As many as 15 vegetable gardens can be tested.

Health Department

Rachelle Kuster clarified the blood lead data presented at the last CAG meeting. Results are from children under 72 months tested in 2001 and the same children tested again in 2002. The children tested do not represent a random sample. Results were divided into three groupings. A child 72 months of age or younger has elevated blood lead levels if there is more than 10 mg/dl.

Thirty-five children tested in both 2001 and 2002:

- 12 children (whose levels were lower than 10 mg/dc) had decrease in blood lead levels
- 9 children blood lead level went from above 10 to below 10
- 5 children had decrease in blood lead levels but the levels were still above 10
- Total of 26 had decrease of 35 tested
- One child had increase from 2001 to 2002

Total of 14% of children tested in 2002 had elevated blood lead levels.

Attribute the decrease in blood lead levels from 2001 to 2001 to:

- Actions by agencies
- Company reducing exposure
- Actions of community
- Education making people aware of the hazards of lead
- Voluntary home purchase

Health Department wants to see blood lead level drop.

Still need to have children tested – Jefferson County Health Department is open from 7.30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Offices are located in Hillsboro and Arnold.

DNR

Under the Administrative Order of Consent

- A total of 16 residential properties purchased and 18 owners are in some stages of negotiations.
- Doe Run has contacted 41 residents and 67 will receive offers in 2003.
- Transportation and material handling plan undergoing review and comments
- Evaluating new proposal from Doe Run for the slag pile.
- DNR will participate in the Indoor Dust focus group meeting.

Air Quality

- DNR's monitoring revealed the quarterly average as 1.47 (Doe Run's figures were 1.49)
- Stack test result – covered under two portions of the Clean Air Act
- National Ambient Air Quality Standards (lead is a criteria pollutant)
- Maximum Cubicle Control Technology Standards (lead is a hazardous air pollutant)

- Emissions standard associated with this standard is 500 milligrams per metric ton of lead produced and requires stack testing.
- April 2002 test results were calculated incorrectly and Doe Run was not in compliance. Notice of violation issued to Doe Run last Friday (May 16, 2003). Doe Run has not had a chance to respond (Their response will be reported at the June CAG meeting). Doe Run was in compliance with the June 2002 test.

Reports of smoke escaping from plant – ducts going to bag house don't seem to be sealed. Doe Run completed all required work for sealing its structures under the AOC on time (July 2002).

EPA

Gene Gunn reported about the ongoing work in the community:

- Surface soil replacement
- Improve smelter operations
- Cleaning homes to HUD standards
- Community Awareness
- Monitoring for recontamination
- Voluntary home purchases

Progress

- 65 out of 144 houses have refused interior remediation
- Want to remediate wherever there is 2500 parts in soil
- Homeowners can have their interiors sampled even if they don't want their homes cleaned so at least they will know.

Property owners are encouraged to have yards and homes remediated as protective measure for public health.

Home interior clean up standards discussed with experts in the Interior Dust focus group meeting on Thursday May 29.

Slag pile

- Doe Run is proposing a third alternative that is more extensive than armoring the slag pile. There will be a presentation to the focus group about that proposal. The new proposal would offer a 500-year flood berm around the slag pile. The core of the berme would be made from slag. There is the potential that the berm would cut off wetlands or additional wetlands would be lost. The implementation of the proposal would take 18 months. This would be more permanent than an interim measure. The other interim plans would take considerably less time to put in place.
- Have to look at interference with the flood plain because the contour would be changed and water run off would be contained.
- EPA will host meeting (date to be announced) for community to review this alternative.

Materials Handling and Transportation Plan

- Proposal would change how concentrate is dumped at the plant – material is dumped and then moved at least once. New plan calls for dumping materials directly into the rail cars.

- Every concentrate truck is washed after material is dumped. The new plan calls for trucks to go on separate road. Product trucks would not have to go through washing if levels of lead in dust on streets did not rise above the green zone.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.